



*The Manchester
Public Schools ART
Department*



MPS ART
ABOUT US

Vision Statement

We strive to enrich the students and the community by strengthening our students' visual experience and understanding of the world and its diversity through the arts.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Manchester Visual Arts Department recognizes that all students have an inherent human need for visual expression. We choose to empower each student in their visual arts and visual communications while embracing their individuality. Each student will have the opportunity to learn and explore the importance of cultural diversity provided by exposure to the visual arts.



MPS ART
Curriculum

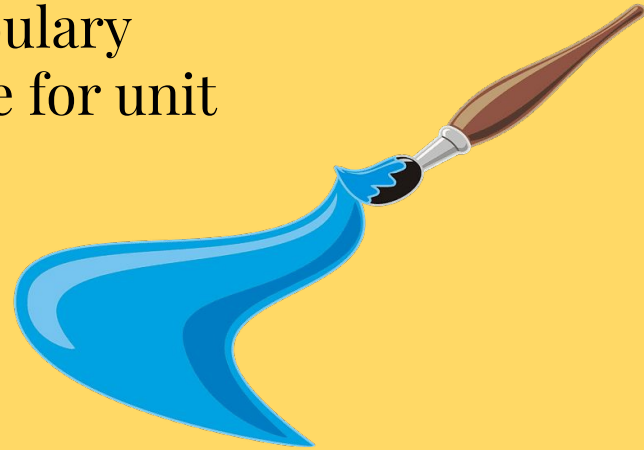
Kindergarten

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.

- Creates artworks that share ideas and feelings
- Knows what an artist does and is introduced to multicultural exemplars
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit



First Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.



- Create an artwork that communicates an idea
- Differentiate between realistic and distorted body proportions
- Compare and contrast techniques and media
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit
- Ceramic sculpture using bas relief/plaque technique

Second Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.

- Analyze works of art
- Develop color mixing skills and color theory vocabulary
- Create a drawing using correct human proportion
- Ceramic sculpture using pinch pot technique
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit



Third Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.



- Compare different art styles
- Create a drawing using perspective – foreground, middle ground, background
- Ceramic sculpture of free standing animal
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit

Fourth Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.



- Analyze facial proportions in a drawing
- Create a drawing that establishes an understanding of atmospheric perspective
- Ceramic sculpture using the coil technique
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit

Fifth Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

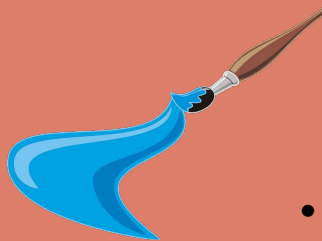
- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.



- Analyze facial proportions in a drawing
- Create a drawing that establishes an understanding of atmospheric perspective
- Ceramic sculpture using the coil technique
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit

Sixth Grade



Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.

- Identifying elements and principles of art while analyzing artworks
- Construct a painting from inception of idea, sequential planning, selection of techniques and media through completion
- Create a drawing using one point perspective
- Create a drawing using introductory techniques in shading/value
- Create a ceramic work using the slab technique
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit

Seventh Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.



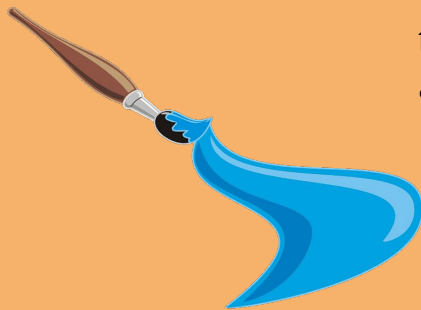
- Identifying elements and principals of art while analyzing artworks
- Construct a painting from inception of idea, sequential planning, selection of techniques and media through completion
- Create a drawing using one point perspective
- Create a drawing using introductory techniques in shading/value
- Create a ceramic work using the slab technique
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit

Eighth Grade

Students will cycle through five units of study in the visual arts:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Printmaking & Collage
- Fibers

They will use diverse materials and tools.



- Identifying elements and principles of art while analyzing artworks
- Construct a painting from inception of idea, sequential planning, selection of techniques and media through completion
- Create a drawing using one point perspective
- Create a drawing using introductory techniques in shading/value
- Create a ceramic work using the slab technique
- Use vocabulary appropriate for unit



MHS- Grades 9-12

Visual arts are essential to your complete education.

Study in the visual arts helps develop your intellect and provides you with the skills necessary for effective communication, and problem solving by teaching you to:



*Understand the connection between visual arts and daily life.

*Create artworks that express concepts as well as your ideas and feelings.

*Respond with understanding to diverse Artworks

*Understand and use materials, techniques, forms and language relevant to visual arts.

*Understand the importance of visual art in expressing and illuminating human experience, beliefs and values.

*Identify works of art and recognize characteristics of art from different historical cultures and periods.

*Develop mastery in at least one art form to continue lifelong involvement as a responder and a creator.

*Develop mastery in preparation for a career.

*Participate in the artistic life of the school and/or community.





MPS ART

Shows & Community Connections

- Manchester Board of Education, Central Office hall display
- Fire Prevention Poster Contest
- Lutz Museum Student Show
- “Things That...” show at the Rec. Dept.
- K-12 MPS Art Show at MHS
- Buckland Hills Mall Art Show
- Vernon Regional, Virtual Art Show
- MARCH Youth ART Month Activities



MPS ART
STAFF

Mrs. Pasqua Guzzi



Pasqua Guzzi the K-12 District Visual Arts Coordinator & MHS Art Teacher.

b21pguzz@mpspride.org

Mrs. Guzzi has been teaching art for 33 years. but her favorite part of her position is interacting with students and creating art with them. It is especially exciting to see how students navigate a project from beginning to end.

Mrs. Andrea Ruzzo



K-12 Art Teacher who is currently teaching at MHS
aruzzo@mpspride.org

Mrs. Ruzzo has been teaching for 10 years, and has been at the high school for 8 of those years. Her favorite part about teaching is watching the students improve from the beginning of the semester to the end. She enjoys showing the students their first projects and the last projects because they can visibly see how they got better as an artist.

Ms. Kelly Burns

K-12 Art Teacher currently teaching at MHS

b11kburn@mpspride.org

Ms. Kelly Burns, an alumni of Manchester High School, has been teaching art for over 30 years in Manchester. She started her career at Robertson Elementary, moved to Illing for 7 years, and she has been at the highschool for over 23 years, teaching in the same jewelry studio she sought refuge in during her years as an MHS student!

Her favorite part of teaching art is watching the student's ideas and sketches morph into 3-dimensional pieces of art. They combine their personal creative voice with the jewelry-making skills she teaches to generate amazing one-of-a-kind pieces of jewelry.

Ms. Burns builds a community of creative collaboration both in sharing ideas and learning jewelry making skills. Students help one another technically and artistically as they create in her classroom.

Although, many of Ms. Burns students may not go onto be jewelry artists, the skills acquired in her classroom teach students to be creative and confident and improve their fine motor skills. Students also gain a greater appreciation of completing a difficult project. It takes a great deal of perseverance and critical thinking to make a piece of fine jewelry.



Matt Atkins

b55matk@mpspride.org

Visual Arts Teacher, Manchester High School

Matt Atkins has been teaching in Manchester for 17 years, at MHS for the last 9 years, previously at Illing, Nathan Hale, Bowers, Robertson, Bennet and Verplanck.



Mrs. Jennifer Beyer

K-4th Grade Art Teacher at Highland Park Elementary

B11jbeye@mpspride.org



Mrs Beyer has worked in Manchester for 22 years. I taught at the High School for 15 years and currently teach at the elementary level. I love teaching art to kids and sparking their creativity and seeing their ideas come to life with the various art forms we introduce.



Ms Donna Peterson

dpeterson@mpspride.org

I have been teaching for 10 years and this is my 5th year in Manchester. At **Verplanck Elementary** we will be drawing, painting, using clay and fabrics, making collages, and expressing our inner artist! We will also be learning about a wide range of cultures and artists from all different backgrounds with a strong focus on African American and Hispanic art.



Tedd Andrews

Art Teacher, Manchester High School

b25tandr@mpspride.org

Tedd Andrews is an Art teacher at Manchester High School. He has been teaching in Manchester for 13 years; 9 of them at MHS.



Ms. Rosie Ruberto *Illing Middle School* rrube@mpspride.org



I have been teaching for 17 years and 8 of the recent years have been at Illing Middle School.

My passion has always been in the arts. I studied in Florence, Italy for 6 months in college where I gained my background in Art History.

My hobbies and interests include jewelry making, cooking, traveling, watching live music and spending time with my family and my dog, Sammy.

Teaching has been a passion of mine and I love working with the youth, especially middle school students. They bring me joy and make me feel young at heart. <3

Mrs. Karen Stavelone
B11kstav@mpspride.org

I have been teaching art for 28+ years, which included 17 years at MHS, Martin Elementary and presently at Illing Middle School.

I love sharing my passion for art with my students, especially constructing with clay. When I am not teaching, I enjoy spending time in my studio “throwing” on the wheel.

My family is my purpose in life and together we enjoy the beach, movies, music and cooking.



Jacki Sweeney, MHS and Bentley Academy jsweeney@mpspride.org

I am a former student of Manchester Public Schools including Nathan Hale, Illing Middle, and Manchester High School where my love of art was first nurtured, and in turn I am dedicated to creating memorable art experiences and opportunities for creative, personal, and intellectual growth for the students of Manchester.

I am always looking to grow my skills in art and teaching, make interdisciplinary connections, and explore new media and techniques to share with my students. Discovering local art galleries and other creative arts & music events is another source of inspiration. My background is in fine arts with a degree in Drawing and Art History. I have been teaching since 2014 and teaching students aged Pre-K through Grade 12 in Manchester for 7 years.

It brings me the most joy to see my students engage in their learning and their lives enriched from the pride and success of their growth and achievements!



Carver Rapp

K-4 Art Teacher
Keeney Elementary
carver@mpspride.org

Mr. Rapp has been teaching for seven years. He really enjoys seeing what his students create with their skills.

His favorite color is green.



Jim Hardy

Martin Elementary School
K-4 Visual Art
jhardy@mpspride.org

I have been teaching for 20 years, 6 of which has been in Manchester Public Schools. Art is my passion and any free time I have away from the classroom is spent making art in my studio. Other passions of mine is music, travel and spending time with family and friends.



Joseph Vernali

Bowers Elementary School
K-4 Visual Arts Teacher
b32jvern@mpspride.com



- Named Connecticut's Outstanding Art Educator 2022
- Teaching art for 17 years in Manchester
- Connecticut Art Education Association Elementary Division Representative
- Conn TESOL Arts Integration Specialist
- Bachelors in Art Education, Southern Connecticut State University
- Masters in Art Education, Boston University
- Masters in TESOL, University of Saint Joseph

Christine Allison

Bennet Academy

6th Grade Visual Art

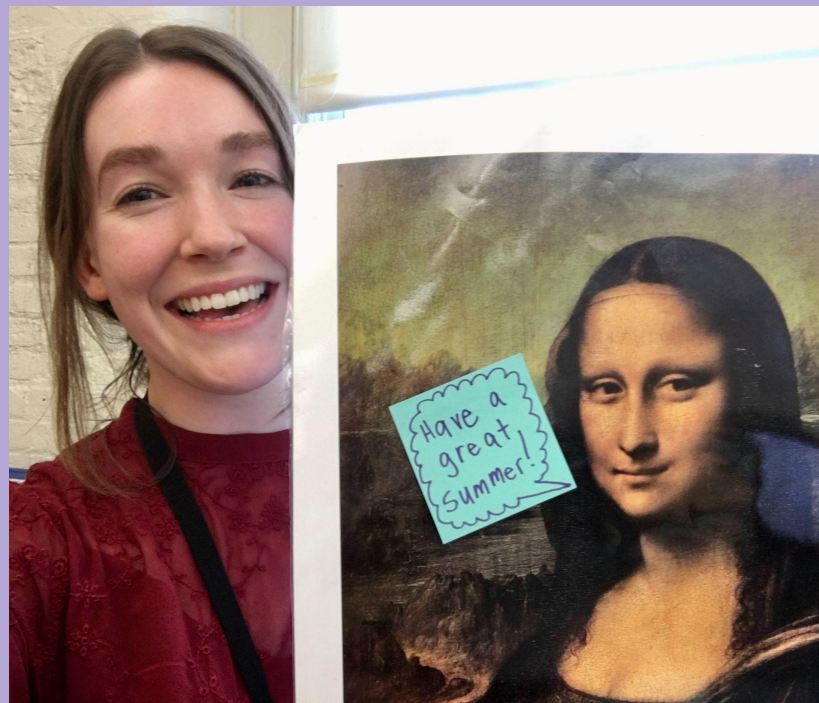
Hi! I teach 6th grade visual art at Bennet Academy. Last year I taught elementary art as the district wide art teacher at Bowers, Buckley and Highland Park. It is my goal to offer all students an art experience where they feel like artists creating work in their own studio space. I have a strong background in Ceramics at CCSU, but have been dedicated to drawing and painting my whole life. Some things I love to do in my free time are hiking with my dog Blu, knitting, reading and learning new things!

Margaret Gillespie

Bennet Academy

5th Grade Visual Art

I teach 5th Grade art at Bennet Academy. My favorite part of teaching art is watching students take artistic agency and create an artwork that reflects their unique interests and identity. In my free time I love painting, trying new recipes, and getting outside.



Mrs. Maloney has been teaching elementary Art for 31 years and has taught in Manchester for the last 17 years. She is also a graduate of the Manchester Public Schools. The greatest joy of teaching Art to young children is watching their eyes sparkle when they realize what they “can” create. Painting and collage are her favorite mediums to work with.



Diane Maloney
Buckley Elementary School
Art Teacher K-4

b39dmalo@mpspride.org





As a veteran art teacher, I am happiest when kids are thoroughly engaged in their work. I also love connecting students to the life principles that are intrinsic to creating art, including collaboration, idea building and perseverance. I enjoy hiking locally, family gathering and bike riding.

Ann Reimels

Bennet Academy

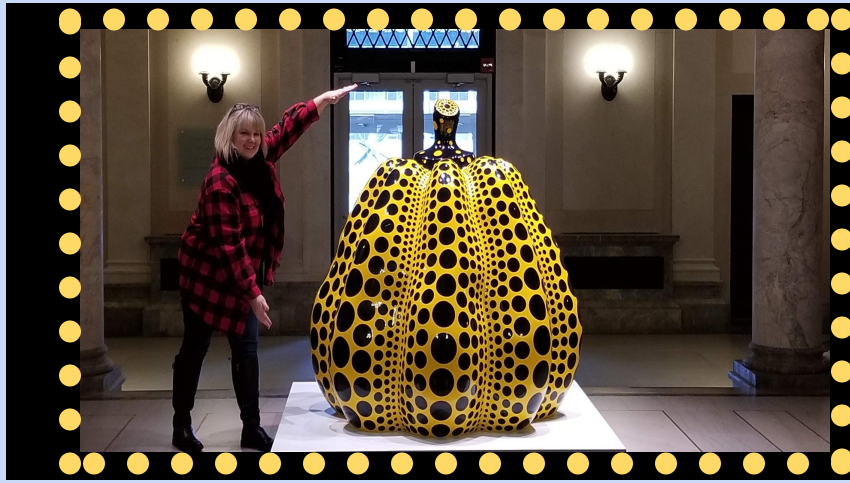
Art Teacher 5th or 6th

b08areim@mpspride.org

Lisa Nelson

Waddell elementary

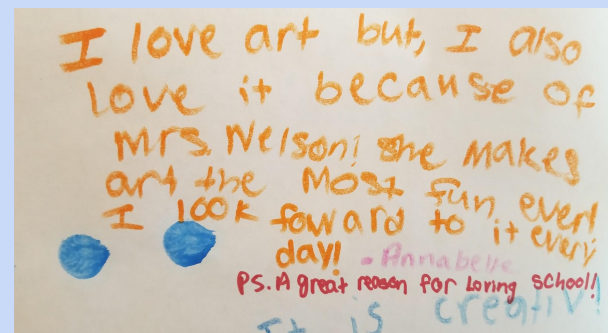
lnelson@mpspride.org



Hello there,

I have been teaching art for almost 20 years, Some of them here in Manchester. I hope that I encourage students to feel comfortable to explore, learn and get excited about all the cultures and artists that they will learn about and materials they will use in the art studio.

My favorite moments in teaching are seeing students engaged in creating, the smile and confidence in themselves when they say I Did It! I also enjoy seeing art they bring in from home and getting notes like this...



When at home I am busy with my husband, my 2 sons, daughter and 2 pups. We enjoy baking, game nights, going for walks and camping. Reading, birds watching and creating art are my "me time" choices.